

# The Senior Alliance **COLLOQUY**

*The Senior Alliance's Monthly Advocacy Update*

**April 30, 2025**

*Volume 6.4*

*Welcome to The Senior Alliance's advocacy newsletter, COLLOQUY!  
This monthly e-mail is a look at the issues, legislation, and events impacting aging.*

---

## **Protect OAA Programs**

A leaked draft of the proposed FY 2026 federal budget includes alarming changes that would dismantle key programs under the Older Americans Act (OAA). These changes threaten critical services like health promotion, nutrition, elder justice, state health insurance programs and more by eliminating funding or shifting programs away from the coordinated aging network.

If enacted, these changes would reduce access to essential services and create more barriers for older adults and caregivers.

### **Take Action!**

Tell your legislators to reject these harmful proposals and protect the programs that help older adults live safely and independently.

It's easy to take action through our website -- click [here](#) to send a message to your elected officials in just a few clicks.

Together, we can protect the OAA and the older adults it serves.

---

## **Older Michigian's Day**

We're excited to invite you to Older Michigianians Day 2025, happening on **Wednesday, May 7, from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM** on the Capitol Lawn in Lansing, Michigan.

This annual event brings together older adults and advocates from across the state to speak directly with lawmakers about the issues that matter most to Michigan's aging population.

### **How You Can Get Involved:**

**Join Us in Lansing or on Livestream:** Be part of the crowd or watch the event on our livestream to show your support and share your voice.

**Reach Out to Lawmakers:** Connect with your state legislators to talk about the important issues affecting older adults in your community.

For more information and livestream link, check out [Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan's events page](#).

Let's come together to make an impact for older Michigianians!

---

## **Michigan Faces Growing Crisis in Senior Care - Here's What You Should Know**

As Michigan's population continues to age, the state is facing a growing crisis in its ability to support older adults. A recent *Bridge Michigan* article, "[Crush of retirees a crisis in Michigan. State unprepared to meet their needs.](#)" sheds light on the urgent need for reform and advocacy.

By 2030, it's projected that **1 in 4 Michigan residents will be over age 60**. But the systems designed to support older adults--like housing, transportation, and long-term care--are already strained and underfunded.

The article highlights the story of 82-year-old Howard Gregor, who was forced into a nursing home due to limited mobility and lack of in-home support. His experience is one of many that reflect the state's fragmented approach to senior services.

**Key Takeaways:**

- Michigan lacks adequate infrastructure to help seniors age in place.
- Many older adults are funneled into expensive nursing facilities instead of receiving home-based care.
- Advocates are calling for stronger policies and funding to address housing safety, accessible transportation, and community-based services.

This is a critical moment to raise awareness and advocate for changes that support aging with dignity and independence.

Check out the article [here](#).

---

**Inside The Senior Alliance Podcast**

In this episode, Jason Maciejewski, CEO of The Senior Alliance, talks to Amy Gotwals, Chief of Public Policy and External Affairs at [USAging](#).

They discuss in full the potential of the proposed budget cuts from the current administration in Washington, DC, and the effects these cuts will have on Area Agencies on Aging, as well as other services.

Amy and Jason also discuss the severity of the proposed cuts to Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. They provide information on all the services that seniors and disabled people across America receive, and how the proposed cuts will hurt those communities.

They also offer many ideas of how you can help advocate to prevent these cuts from happening and how to get a hold of your representatives and senators to tell them how you feel about these proposed cuts. Vital information!

[Listen to the episode](#).

---

[Click Here to Advocate](#)